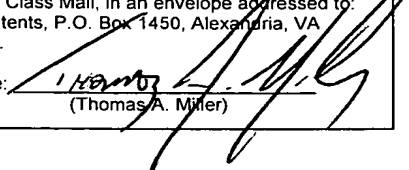


IFW

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 28, 2004 Signature: 
(Thomas A. Miller)

Docket No.: 06005/39056
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Douglas P. Gethmann

Application No.: 10/628,717

Confirmation No.: 6718

Filed: July 28, 2003

Art Unit: 3654

For: VALVE PACKING REMOVAL DEVICE

Examiner: John Bastianelli

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

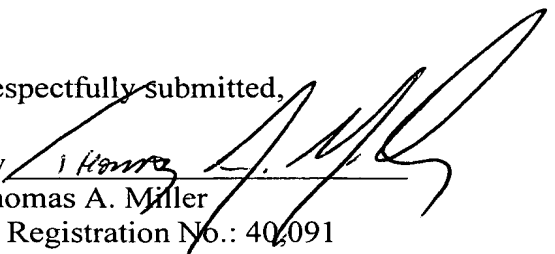
MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed December 8, 2004, Applicant hereby elects the apparatus claims of Group I, namely claims 1-14. Applicants further submit that such claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully solicit same. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Dated: December 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Thomas A. Miller

Registration No.: 40,091
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicant